sfaa NEWSLETTER November 5, 1956

MORE ABOUT THE 1956 MEMBERSHIP EXHIBITION

The unjuried SFAA Membership Exhibition will open at the deYoung Museum on December 5. You should have your entry blanks by now. Fill them out and get them into the mails as soon as possible. There will be five awards; 3 at $100 each, 1 at $75, and 1 at $50. Entries may be in any medium. Jurors of awards and prizes will be Ninfo Valvo, curator of paintings at the deYoung; Elmer Bischoff, painter, artist member and Chairman of the Fine Arts Department at the CSFA; and Thomas Hardy, metal sculptor and member of the faculties of CSFA and the University of California.

CSFA GRAPHICS SHOP OPEN TO SFAA MEMBERS

Beginning November 1 the School's graphics studio will be open to Artist members Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 to 10 P.M. Charges will be $6.50 per month per person, the income to be used to cover cost of supervision and preparation of the studio and materials. A minimum of 6 members a month must be maintained to keep the facilities open. Locker space at the school may be rented for $1 for the duration of the semester. Renewal fee for the Spring semester will be an additional $1. The studio's equipment consists of four lithograph presses, one small etching press, and a new two-ton English mapping press capable of pulling proof prints equal to any major size etching done in the east. The press bed measures 40 by 50 inches.

REPORT ON THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE ARTISTS' COUNCIL

The budget for Council activities was read and approved by the Council. Funds remaining from last year were set aside to form a basis for prizes for the deYoung Membership show. However, Treasurer Stravos Trian emphasized the need for a money-raising project to augment these funds.

Two of four applications for artist membership were approved: Jean Kellogg and Gertrude Hanna. The others had not met exhibition requirements and will be contacted toward becoming general members.

The various Committee Chairmen reported as follows: Nathan Oliveira, Chairman SFAA Gallery Committee, reported on the artists who have accepted invitations to exhibit in the SFAA Gallery this season. He also outlined plans for the coming graphics arts festival to be held at the CSFA in January. Because of the conflict of his activities, he asked to be relieved of the SFAA Gallery Chairmanship and was given permission to seek a new chairman.

Bob Holdeman reported on the S. F. Art Festival. The substance of his report appeared in the October 4 NEWSLETTER.

Nell Sinton reported on the progress of arrangements for the deYoung all membership show. The Museum will offer the three galleries SFAA has used before, and perhaps the large gallery in addition. She had also discussed with Miss Valvo the possibility of further group (3-man) exhibitions similar to those held in the past by SFAA at the deYoung. She was instructed to continue such discussion with a view to working out the resuming of these shows.

Wally Hedrick, Chairman of Annual Exhibitions, gave an account of his discussions with Dr. Morley of the S.F. Museum. These talks have resulted in the raising of the maximum size limit for two dimensional works from 5 feet to 6 feet. Further discussions will consider the possible recombination of various media in future annuals. The Monitor's report on the recent watercolor show was read and discussed in the light of contradictions arising from an overzealous interpretation of media limitations. The Council felt that the SFAA desired to present the broadest possible range of techniques and approaches within the various media. The media requirement for the December Print and Drawing show will read: "Open to Prints and Drawings of all kinds. In cases of doubt as to suitability of media, the jury will decide upon the basis of individual works." $150 was set aside for the jury to use for purchases from the show, purchases to be donated to the S.F. Museum.

Maurice Lapp was succeeded by Gertrude Murphy as Chairman of the Activities Committee. The subject of his report is discussed in the box item in the following column.

REPORT OF THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE ARTISTS' COUNCIL

Two new members elected to the Council at its last meeting declined to serve and Wally Hedrick resigned. These three positions will be filled at the next meeting.

Art Festival representative, Bob Holdeman, reported on the program of the Festival. He emphasized the fact that the Art Commission's Committee for visual arts has not yet had a meeting and that unless the artists of San Francisco take a strong stand in favor of the Festival there is a possibility that it might not be held. He recommended that he be authorized to attend the next Art Commission meeting to present the Council's desires for a Festival and its program of participation. The Council gave him this authorization. He also presented a plan for construction of an Ostwald color sphere as chief SFAA exhibit and as a contribution to the educative function of the Festival and the SFAA. It was moved that the Board of the SFAA be reminded that the SFAA won a prize for its special educational exhibition in last year's Festival and be asked to help defray expenses of the proposed project.

Reports on the Members' Exhibition at the deYoung Museum stated that awards will be presented by Selah Chamberlain at 6 P.M. on December 4th, and a preview for SFAA members sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary will follow that same evening. Prize money has been given by the Board of Directors, the Women's Auxiliary and the Artists' Council. All members who are delinquent in their dues will be barred from the exhibition.

The Art Bank (collection of members' work) which was considered a year ago was revived in discussion. It was emphasized that it is important that a collection be on view for visitors who wish to see examples of SFAA artists' work. Wally Hedrick was charged with the task of establishing the "Bank" at the CSFA and presenting detailed plans for the handling of such works.

VISITING VIP'S

The program of the Activities Committee for bringing artist members and visiting celebrities of interest together in informal gatherings has been moving along. Gertrude Murphy, who is now Chairman of the Committee, is sending a letter to various museums, art schools, etc. asking them to inform the Council of intended visits of such persons. The first such meeting is being planned for early November. When SFAA members know that professional artists, museum directors or other individuals of interest are about to visit the San Francisco area, they are requested to telephone Gertrude Murphy, SUtter 1-4980, so that a meeting may be arranged. A week or ten days' notice is necessary to schedule a meeting date.

ACTIVITIES AND NEWS OF SFAA MEMBERS

The opening of the SFAA Gallery on October 19th at the preview of the ROBERT HOWARD exhibit was extremely successful. The Women's Auxiliary were hostesses serving up Trader Vic punch garnished with floating gardenias. The attendance was very large and both the show and the opening night guests received excellent press notices.

The opening of the second exhibit, a showing of WALLY HEDRICK'S paintings and sculpture, will be held November 16 and will be something "new and different" in art previews. It will be a beer and pretzel party in keeping with Wally's gay and provocative work. There will be dancing to the really notable music of the former Studio 13 jazzband, which has as three of its members ELMER BISCHOFF, DAVID PARKS and WALLY HEDRICK himself. These artists can play as cool a note as the next cat at the best nightclub in town.

WALTER ASKIN received a Weber award for his pastel "Icarus" in the California Watercolor Society show to be seen at the Los Angeles County Museum (and later at the Oakland Museum). He also received honorable mention for his drawing "Self-Portrait" in the San Gabriel Valley Exhibition at the Pasadena Art Museum.

AMY FLEMING is having an exhibition of paintings at the Ruth White Gallery on 57th St., New York, November 7 to December 1. Almost all of the work shown has not been previously exhibited.

NATHAN OLIVEIRA and YNEZ JOHNSTON were announced as winners of Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation awards. Each received a $1,000 award, Nathan Oliveira in the field of graphic arts and Ynez Johnston in the field of painting.

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